## SPRING CULTURE

We are going to try to keep the culture one issue ahead of the season from now on. You can read what to do in the Spring during the Winter evenings and have your chores well thought out and be ready for them when the time comes.

Please share your ideas with the other members. If you find a good way to do something let us know so we can pass it on to all our friends.

When all danger of freezes are over in the Spring it is time to do your heavy pruning. This is the time to shape your plants, some people say to cut back about 1/3 of the way. This will depend on how big you want your plant to get. One thing to remember is when pruning always leave the last node on the brangh pointing upward and inward. This will help your plnat to grow into a compact bushy plant.

Now give your hibiscus a "spring tonic" of foliage spray fertilizer. One that contains the minor elements is best. At least be sure that in the food program they get this minor element desert some time soon. Then work out your fertilizer program and stick to it. You can increase the nitrogen content somewhat at this time. Hibiscus like organics also. A good mulch is helpful in holding moisture and the slow breakdown of the mulch furnishes food material for the plant. Just don't pile the mulch up around the trunk of the plant. Rake it back a few inches so that you don't encourage crown rot.

If we have a hard freeze again this year do not prune the plants until spring and the new growth is starting to come out again. Your plant won't mind the extra rest and it may come back where you thought it was dead. Keep them moist and wait to see what develops.

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Man is a worm. He no sooner reaches a point where he can wiggle a bit when some chicken gets him.



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